

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 10, 2007

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1270

Honorable Members  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 1270, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to State Planning."

The purpose of this bill is to revise the due date of completion of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, appropriate an additional \$850,000 to the Office of the Auditor to develop the plan, and set up a special fund for the Office of Planning's geographic information system (GIS).

Although the enhancement of the GIS system is important, this bill is objectionable because it fails to recognize the proper location and logical nexus for development of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

Assigning the Office of the Auditor with the responsibility for developing the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan is not consistent with the Auditor's primary duties and is an inappropriate function of that office. Pursuant to section 23-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Auditor's primary duties are "to conduct post audits of the transactions, accounts, programs, and performance of all departments, offices, and agencies of the State and its political subdivisions" and "examinations to discover evidence of any

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unauthorized, illegal, irregular, improper, or unsafe handling or expenditure of state funds or improper practice of financial administration." The Office of Planning is responsible for comprehensive, long-range, and strategic planning, pursuant to chapter 225M, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and is the more appropriate agency to develop the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

Second, this bill further delays the issuance of the sustainability report. The original report was due prior to the start of the 2006 legislative session. Act 211 of 2006 delayed this deadline to the 2007 legislative session. This bill further postpones the deadline to the start of the 2008 legislative session.

These delays have occurred despite the appropriation of \$850,000 for this project. This measure proposes to appropriate an additional \$850,000 to the Auditor's Office for the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. If approved, this measure would appropriate a total of \$1,700,000 for this project. It is unclear that the project merits the expenditure of an additional \$850,000 of taxpayer funds.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 1270 without my approval.

Respectfully,



LINDA LINGLE  
Governor of Hawaii